

Relation of the Proceſſion, Faſting and Penance, enjoyn'd by

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MAHOMET-SOLYMAN EMPEROUR OF THE TURKS,

*From the riſing to the ſetting of the Sun, Lord of Lords,
and rightſul Succeſſor of the Race of the Great
Prophet Mahomet, to be obſerved through
the whole Ottoman Empire.*



Translated out of a Turkiſh Copy.



THE Turkiſh Emperour firmly beſieving the Hand of God to be ſtreached out over all His Kingdoms, and conſidering that the Almighty has given ſuch proſperous Succeſſes to his ſworn Enemies the Chriſtians, in the Events of this preſent Warr againſt him, and ſo Bleſſ'd their Arms both by Sea and Land, that his Armies have not only been ſeveral times Beat and Routed, but whole Kingdoms are ſnatch'd from under his Power and Dominion, and the chief cauſe of all this to have been his little regard of the Divine aſſiſtance, his relying too much upon his own Force and Strength, and his ſlighting the Chriſtian Emperour. To appeaſe the Divine Wrath, and that of His Great Prophet *Mahomet*, He ordains throughout all his Empire, that the firſt three Fridays after the New Moon, in the 5, 6, and 7, all Perſons ſhall be oblig'd to keep a ſtrict and aſtere Faſt, without Eating or Drinking any manner of thing till the Stars appear.

On the ſame Days of Faſting, the *Muphti*, with the Officers of the Church, Clothed with Sack-Cloth only, Girded with Ropes, their Eyes caſt down towards the Ground, and Beards hanging careleſſly, are to walk through the Streets and Mercat places till they come to the *Mosque* with howlings, and crying *Tare dam dam muſchay Allah Allah*.

But at *Mecca* the Coffin of the Great Prophet *Mahomet* is to be carryed publickly, being laid upon a Hand-Barrow, or Bier for the Dead, made of Silver, but the Silver is to be ſmoak'd over, and made to appear Ruſty.

They are to carry 25 Boxes of the ſame ſort of Silver, in which are to be put the Bones of ſuch Officers and *Spahies*, as out of Love to their Religion have loſt their Lives, and who are to be accounted amongſt the Martyrs, to the end that the conſideration of theſe precious *Hero's* may move the Great *Mahomet* to throw himſelf in the Arms of an Offended angry God.

Every

Every Friday thereafter the Coffin of the Great Prophet is to be brought out to the open Field, The *Pilgrims*, *Citizens*, *Merchants* of *Mecca*, are to make the Proceſſion ſeven times round the ſaid Coffin; bewail and moan with grievous Lamentations, and Mourful Songs, without any Airy way of ſinging, but with ſighs, Groans and Howlings: No Muſical Inſtrument is to be heard, and on the laſt Friday they are to have a Proceſſion which is to laſt four Hours in the following Order.

1.. They are to carry a Bier, followed by 600 Perſons, Barefooted, Clothed like Penitents, Girded about with Ropes, bearing all ſorts of broken Weapons, as *Arque-buſes*, *Splinter'd Javelins*, *ſtrained Croſs-bows*, *Targets*, all in pieces, and the like.

2. Three Thouſand *Muſulmen* in white Cloths, beſprinkled with Blood and Aſhes, with dreadful Howlings and Lamentable Cryes are to beat their Limbs and Bodies.

3. Next 6000 *Turks* with the uppermoſt part of their Bodies Naked, which they are to laſh with Thorns till the Blood run down to the Ground.

4. In the miſt, the Coffin of the Great Prophet *Mahomet* is to be carried by thirty *Saphi's*, with their Heads bare, and Beards Raz'd on both ſides 300 *Baſha's* are to March with drawn *Symiters*, and if any of the Company ſhall preſume to caſt a raſh look upon the Coffin, he is immediatly cut in pieces and caſt to the Dogs.

5. Every quarter of an Hour, that the Proceſſion laſts a Chriſtian Slave and a Jew are to be ſlain and left wallowing in their Blood.

6. Next follow 30 *Baſha's*, Governours of different Provinces in Cloths of a mean Colour without Purple or any other Colour, ty'd with a Black Crape, ſpoted with Blood, with one Hand upon their Backs they trail the Tail of a Camel upon the Ground, in place of a *Schutcheon*.

7. Two Thouſand *Faniſaries* March in their Arms, with a Banner which they trail behind them, and with a confus'd noiſe they ſhout *Allah pery muſfat ay*.

8. The *Vizier* Marches likewiſe mounted on a Lame Aſs, with a Reed tainted with Blood with which he Beats his Head, and mourns for the evil times, ſaying, *Offat milay zus ſay*.

9. They carry a great Coffer, full of *Turkiſh Money*, which they throw to the Poor, but if any gather an *Aſſer* before the Proceſſion be ended, he is to be empal'd. The confluence of People and *Pilgrims* cloſes the Proceſſion. In the miſt of all this Company 100 *Turkiſh Hermites*, who with Razors cut the Fleſh of their Faces, Arms, Breſts and Feet, in ſo much that the Ground is bedew'd with their Blood; They lift up their Right Hand to Heaven, ſaying, *Allah buſſay allah murray veſtrinmay*, Which is an Oath of vengeance againſt the Chriſtians, and by this means they intend to appeaſe the Wrath of God, and their Prophet *Mahomet*.